

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from Oranienburg

25X1A

EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT 13 May to 3 June 1953

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 6 July 1953

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

SOURCE

25X1X

25X1A

1. On 27 May 1953, the western section of the Sachsenhausen concentration camp, including the former Panzerschule, was occupied by about 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery and motor transport insignia, and with blue-bordered black, black-bordered black and black-bordered crimson epaulets. On 20 May, soldiers were engaged in firing practice with live ammunition at the former Klinkerwerk east of the lock. No training activity was observed on 27 May. The gate on Schuetzen Strasse was removed and was reconstructed south of building No 150 on Bernauer Allee. A new fence up west between buildings Nos 80 and 82 and along Waldmann Strasse separated buildings Nos 76, 78 and 80 from the billeting area. The fence between building No 82 and Trift Strasse was replaced by a brick wall, 1.5 meters high, which was completed half-way down Dusch Strasse and the further course of which could not be made out. About 10 VP personnel were at building No 76. Source believed that buildings Nos 78 and 80 were used as dressing-rooms by construction workers.

25X1

25X1A

2. On 1 June, the Weisse Stadt settlement, Oranienburg, was lightly occupied. The section north of Ernst Thaelmann Strasse housed 150 to 200 Soviet troops. No training activity was observed in this section. The garages Nos 29 through 36 were vacant. Several buildings in the section south of Ernst Thaelmann Strasse between Friedrich Ebert Strasse and Berliner Strasse were occupied by about 150 Soviet soldiers. Some VP men were seen in the same section. According to source, they belonged to an office where KVP recruits had to report. Young civilians carrying suitcases and escorted by VP men repeatedly entered the section. The installation also housed civilian workers employed at the airfield who, according to source, were quartered in buildings Nos 1 through 5. Trucks were observed at the Weisse Stadt settlement.

25X1B

3. On 1 June, no change was observed in the occupation of the Sachsenhausen concentration camp. A group of 20 to 30 EM with light-blue epaulets were engaged in firing practice with submachine guns on Bernauer Strasse across the billeting area. About 40 Soviet soldiers and 30 VP men were observed at athletics in the billeting area and near the installation respectively.

25X1

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

25X1

25X1

SECRET [REDACTED]

- 2 -

25X1B

25X1A

- [REDACTED]
4. Between 15 and 22 May, four T-34 tanks, [REDACTED] were repeatedly observed practicing driving on the tank training ground near the Sachsenhausen concentration camp. On 20 May, T-34 tanks [REDACTED] were seen at the Havelhausen Bridge driving toward Oranienburg. 1
5. Between 13 and 26 May, a Soviet Civil Engineer Lukayevich (phonetic spelling) (fnu) was in charge of the supply at the Grabowsee hospital. 1
6. Between 22 and 31 May, no changes were observed in the army section of the Weisse Stadt settlement. 1
7. On 26 May, source observed at the Sachsenhausen concentration camp that the driving school unit Paskevski (fnu) was quartered in building No 12, and that building No 13, a low wooden building with a concrete foundation, served as storage depot. The wooden fence running west of buildings Nos 137, 139, 153 and 154 was removed and reconstructed east of buildings Nos 145 and 149. Thus, the KVP area also included buildings Nos 140 through 149. 1
8. The special construction office in Eberswalde was in charge of the third construction stage at Templin-Vogelsang, which, at a cost of 1,000,000 eastmarks, included a brick barracks installation of 2 buildings for troops, 1 officers' building, and kitchens, messrooms and sanitary installations for officers and EM. The work was scheduled to start on 1 June, but was delayed for about 10 days. The construction was to be completed in early September. 2
9. On 28 May, source observed at Eberswalde that the AAA unit of the headquarters was stationed at the former Maerkische Elektrizitaetswerke on the intersection of Ernst Thaelmann Strasse and Trift Strasse. A storage depot was in building No 5 of the installation, and a prison in the basement of the same building which was partially surrounded by a wooden fence 2.5 meters high. A similar fence was around two open garages where source observed trucks [REDACTED] 1
10. Source learned in Eberswalde that a Soviet motion picture theater of about 600 seats was to be constructed at Eberswalde-Britz by the special construction office at a cost of 160,000 eastmarks. 2
11. On 27 May, source observed at the Sachsenhausen concentration camp that the gate on Diana Strasse was removed and was reconstructed near building No 80 on Bernauer Allee. The fence along Diana Strasse and Hubertus Strasse and between Diana Strasse and the Soviet cemetery at a right angle to Busch Strasse and from there to Bernauer Allee was removed. On 28 May, soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets constructed a fence, about 1.2 meters high, from the intersection of Busch Strasse and Waldmann Strasse at an oblique angle toward north as far as Hubertus Strasse. Another new wooden fence, 3 meters high, began west of building No 80 on Bernauer Allee, went up north between buildings Nos 28 and 30 and continued toward northwest to Trift Strasse. On 3 June, all houses on Strasse 1 and Strasse 2 were vacated by Soviet troops. Building No 12 in the 2)D Section was occupied by 60 to 70 soldiers of the driving school unit Kabanov. Source believed that a large

SECRET [REDACTED]

SECRET/

25X1

- 3 -

contingent of the unit was transferred to Vogelsang. At noon, soldiers with tank insignia from Section A came from the direction of building No 150 and went for dinner to building No 16 in Section 2) D. Source believed that the soldiers belonged to the tank training unit. On 23 May, six trucks occupied by about 200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia came from the direction of Sachsenhausen and entered the gate near building No 92. On 27 May, the same unit left toward Sachsenhausen. On 24 and 25 May, about 300 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets participated in athletic contests in the yard between buildings Nos 148, 149 and 150. Almost daily between 22 May and 4 June, [redacted] 25X1 loaded with timber, iron rods and construction material, left the billeting area toward Sachsenhausen and returned at 7:30 p.m. On 28 May, T-34 tanks [redacted] 25X1 were loaded at the freight station and left toward Templin coupled to the regular passenger train. On 30 May, source learned from a Soviet officer, that only minor repair work would be done at the Sachsenhausen concentration camp. Trucks [redacted] of the driving school unit were daily observed in the yard of the komendatura on Schuetzen Strasse. At about 7:40 a.m. on 1 June, about 100 EM and 12 uniformed women with red-bordered black epaulets came from the Oranienburg railroad station and entered the billeting area. During the period of observation, source almost daily saw two T-34 tanks painted green driving to the woods toward Schmachtenhagen via the Lehnitz lock. On 26 May, 15 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets did aiming practice with two T-34 tanks near building No 92. 1

12. On 23 May, about 60 soldiers were engaged in infantry training on the drill ground east of the Sachsenhausen concentration camp. Between 23 and 27 May, 5 or 6 tanks repeatedly left the new gate on Bernauer Strasse toward Schmachtenhagen. They returned in the evening. 1

1. [redacted] Comment. Compared with the last report of 21 May 1953, it appears that no changes have occurred in the occupation of the Sachsenhausen concentration camp, including the former Panzerschule or SS-Kaserne, and the Weisse Stadt settlement. The occupation strength reported in paragraph 1, however, has again been considerably overestimated by the same source. [redacted] 25X1A . It is believed that large contingents of the unidentified motor transport battalion of the 25th Tank Div also moved to Templin, and that only elements of the battalion employed for driving school practice were left behind commanded by Senior Lieutenant Paskevki (fnu) and Major Kabanov (fnu) who are carried as officers of the unit. The shifting of the fences and the resultant reduction of the Soviet billeting area was previously reported in the reference report. For key to the numerical designation of buildings, [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] . The section of the Weisse Stadt settlement north of Ernst Thaelmann Strasse was occupied by an air force construction unit, while a rear detail of the unidentified headquarters which moved to Templin is believed to be stationed in the former army section south of Ernst Thaelmann Strasse. For key to numerical designation of buildings, [redacted] 25X1

2. [redacted] Comment. Probably additional construction work of the previously known installation northwest of Vogelsang. Another source, however, stated that the construction of barracks possibly was also planned in the Camp Kannenburg area. [redacted] 25X1A

3. [redacted] Comment. Compare with sketch by the same source on quarters of the Hq 63rd AAA Div (US). [redacted] A raw sketch indicated that the two open garages reported in paragraph 9 of the present report were at the southeast corner of the installation.

SECRET/

25X1